

[Translation]

SHRI PIUS TIRKEY (Alipurduars) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I associate myself with the hon. Speaker, the Hon. Prime Minister and the leaders of other parties in paying tributes. I pay tributes to all those colleagues who are no more alive, especially Prof. Rangaji to whom I was very close and I used to go for morning walk with him on Talkatora Road and North Avenue. He always used to walk with a stick. He was a very simple person who loved all, irrespective of party affiliations. He was very cordial with people. I myself and on behalf of my party RSP express our condolences on the sad demise of our former colleagues and request you to convey our condolences to the members of the bereaved families.

SHRI RASHEED MASOOD (Saharanpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I, on behalf of my party, Samajwadi Party and myself, associate myself in paying tributes to Prof. Ranga and our three other former colleagues. I am reminded of something said by Prof. Ranga and I am sure that he must have said it to everyone. He used to say that for the last few years, Parliamentary proceedings, have been dominated by the lung power. I feel that you can prove to be really helpful in bringing down dominance of this lung power and fulfilling Prof. Ranga's desire. It would be a befitting tribute to Prof. Ranga, and the souls of our other departed colleagues, if we can get rid of the lung power and maintain the dignity of the Parliament. With this, I, myself and on behalf of my party, pay tributes to the departed souls.

SHRI SURAJ MANDAL (Godda) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I did not know anyone personally except Shri Bhola Raut. I had a chance to work with him for a few days. He was a man with a humble background and he always encouraged the workers. I am sorry to say that I did not have a chance to work with a great Parliamentary like Prof. Ranga. I associate myself with the feelings expressed by the hon. Speaker, Leader of the House, Leader of the Opposition and other leaders, for the other two former colleagues and pray that the souls of such great people may rest in peace. Please convey our condolences to the bereaved families.

With these words I pay my tributes.

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI (Hyderabad) : Prof. Ranga's policy of truth and straight forwardness had already come to India but it was opposed at that time. However now it has been accepted. He was an undaunted and straight forward leader. I, myself and on behalf of my party, pay tributes to the memory of the departed leaders.

MR. SPEAKER : The House may now stand in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the deceased.

11.47 hrs.

*The Members then stood in silence for a short while.*

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members may please resume their seats.

11.49 hrs.

## ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

### MOUs Signed in Power Sector

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\*2. SHRI HARIN PATHAK :  
SHRI K.G. SHIVAPPA.

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have signed a number of MOUs in the energy sector during 1995;

(b) if so, the details thereof, the number of projects to become operational in the near future along with the quantum of additional electricity to be generated as a result thereof;

(c) whether the investment in energy sector is continuing through these MOUs; and

(d) the steps being taken for successful implementation of those MOUs?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N.K.P. SALVE) : (a) to (d). A *Statement* is laid on the Table of the House.

### STATEMENT

(a) and (b) : As per the information received from various State Governments/State Electricity Boards as on date 57 MOUs have been signed from 1.1.1995 to 18.2.1995 for setting up of power projects in the private sector involving a capacity of about 21270 MW. Competitive bidding has been made mandatory for awarding power projects to private developers after 18.2.1995.

(c) The investment from the above proposals would be known after the projects achieve financial closure.

(d) Government of India reviews the progress of all private sector proposals including those awarded through the MOU route from time to time to remove the bottlenecks, for expeditious implementation of the projects.

[Translation]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Mr. Speaker, Sir, due to scarcity of energy the Government has formulated this policy that

power projects would be set up in private sector and in joint venture. The Hon. Minister has stated that 57 Memorandum of Understandings have been signed. The Government have formulated some guidelines under which all the projects worth over Rs. 25 crore would have to obtain concurrence of the Central Electricity Authority. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister the member of power projects pending with the Central Authority of Gujarat, Rajasthan and Maharashtra and by what time will these be cleared. These have been referred to the Central Authority as all these projects are worth Rs. 200-500-1000 crore.

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE : Mr. Speaker, this limit has been raised from Rs. 25 crore to 100 crore. A total of 9 MOUs have been signed in Gujarat and these are of 4170 megawatt capacity and their cost comes up to Rs. 14,889 crore. The CEA has a total of around 41 proposals...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : I have asked about concurrence.

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE : There are a number of, say around 41 proposals which are under consideration. I do not have the requisite data in regard to Gujarat.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had asked as to whether the pending projects have been cleared so far or not.

Alright, my second question is with regard to the information I have just received from Dr. Chidambaram, who is the Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, that the Maharashtra Government and the Gujarat Government have given their approval for setting of the third unit of Tarapur Power Project and both the Governments have decided to provide funds also. Now only the approval of the Central Government is awaited for the project of 500 megawatt capacity. I would like to know the time by which the Central Government's approval will be accorded to the power project.

MR. SPEAKER : He will give a reply when you sit down.

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE : This question does not concern this Ministry.

MR. SPEAKER : Alright.

*[English]*

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : The hon. Minister has mentioned about the number of MOUs which are signed so far. I would like to know from him as to whether he knows that the MOUs that are signed are concentrated in certain States of the country and there are areas of the country which are being totally denied such MOUs. If that is so, which are the States where maximum number of MOUs have been signed and which are the States where such MOUs are denied? Is there any step that the Government of India is contemplating to attract investments in those States which are power starved

even today and also other States like Bihar and Kerala? The position is very bad in these States and I find that there are no such MOUs in Kerala. There was a proposal for Kayankulam Projects in Kerala which also has not come through.

MR. SPEAKER : Please formulate the question.

PROJ. P.J. KURIEN : I would like to know the reaction of the Minister of this.

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE : The details of 57 MOUs are :

Andhra Pradesh	—	28
Assam	—	1
Madhya Pradesh	—	6
Orissa	—	1
Tamil Nadu	—	10
Uttar Pradesh	—	10, and
Central Government	—	1

As far as the Kayankulam Project is concerned, I want to assure the hon. Member on the floor of the House that we have made substantial progress; and the matter is now before the Cabinet Committee. A decision will be taken as soon as that is done. NTPC is all geared up to take up the Kayankulam Project.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Sir, the hon. Minister has said in his reply that from the 18th of February 1995, we have changed the policy and that 'open bidding' has become a compulsory thing for any MoU. May I know from the hon. Minister that in view of the recommendations of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Energy, are you going to change the eight fast track projects which have already been cleared, that is, before 18th February, 1995 or to review those projects on the basis of the recommendations made by the Standing Committee on Energy and reopen the whole thing regarding the eight fast track projects including Enron, AES and others?

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE : There is no such proposal.

#### Production of Stainless Steel

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\*3 SHRI MAHESH KANODIA :  
SHRIMATI DIPIKA H. TOPIWALA :

Will the MINISTER OF STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the domestic capacity of stainless steel production in the country;